It is also proposed in the said guidelines to advise banks that they should adopt fair practices in debt collection.

(c) 'Do Not Call Registry' is an exhaustive list of all customers who have informed the bank/Non-Banking Finance Companies that they do not wish to receive unsolicited calls/SMS for marketing of its credit card products.

Investment by Japan

1624. DR. KARAN SINGH:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have asked Japan for more Japanese investment;

(b) if so, whether the Japanese Prime Minister's recent visit has helped to improve the investment climate of Japan in India;

(c) whether the visit of Chinese and Japanese Premiers has also proved tremendous investment plan in India; and

(d) if so, what are the sectors on which these investments will be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S.PALANIMANICKAM): (a), (b) and (d) Consequent to the visit of the Prime Minister of Japan, a Joint Study Group (JSG) has been launched, which *inter alia* will suggest ways to encourage higher levels of investment by Japanese companies in India.

(c) During the visit of the Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, the two sides also stressed that an all round expansion of India-China economic cooperation including trade and investment constitutes an important dimension of a stronger relationship.

Recovery drive against exporters

1625. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRIMATI JAMANA DEVI BARUPAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether PM has directed the Revenue Department in his Ministry to keep in abeyance the ongoing tax proceedings and recovery drive against exporters related to levy of income tax on profits from Duty Entitlement Pass Book (DEPB) Scheme from 1997;

(b) if so, whether the Minister of Commerce and Industry has welcomed this decision; and

(c) if so, to what extent this has helped the exporters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S.PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir. Instructions have been issued to the field formations directing all the Assessing Officers to keep in abeyance till 31.8.2005 all assessments and recovery proceedings relating to assessments reopened specifically to reassess the claim for deduction u/s 80-HHC.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The decision to keep the assessment and recovery proceedings in abeyance upto 31.8.2005 has provided temporary relief to the exporting community.

World Bank loan to Andhra Pradesh

1626. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has expressed its willingness to extend loans to the tune of Rs. 7510 Crores to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for development of roads, irrigation and slum area development schemes;

(b) if so, to what extent the World Bank has agreed to provide this amount of loan to Andhra Pradesh;

(c) whether the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has discussed this issue with him; and

(d) if so, to what extent Government have agreed to the suggestions made by World Bank for providing loans to Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S.PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) There is no ongonig World Bank assisted project in Andhra Pradesh for the development of Road, Irrigation and Slum Area Development Scheme. However, there are two pipeline projects funded by World Bank—(i) AP Urban Reform and Municipal Services Project with an estimated cost of Rs. 1050 crore, (ii) AP Roads Sector Project with an estimated cost of Rs. 1500 Crores.